

Preparing for emergencies and response protocols in our Nation's Capital



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(U//FOUO)**

District Response Plan

- In emergency situations that affect public safety, law enforcement will be among the first responding agencies. In the District of Columbia, residents, businesses and visitors depend on the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) to ensure the protection of life and property. The MPD responds to all threats to public safety occurring within the city, while simultaneously providing basic police services in neighborhoods. It is essential that MPD be prepared to maximize resources and capabilities, to ensure that critical tasks are undertaken efficiently and effectively when a major threat to public safety exists.

Personal Preparedness – Get informed!

- **DC Police Alert/Alert DC?**
DC Police Alert enables the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) to notify you quickly about crimes in your neighborhood that may affect you, your home or your business. Also provides test notification during major emergencies or crises.
- With DC Police Alert, the MPD can send emergency alerts, notifications and updates to your cell phone, pager, BlackBerry, PDA and/or e-mail account. All you have to do is sign up at
<https://textalert.ema.dc.gov/register.php>.

Get Informed

- Alerts: The first thing you need during an emergency is reliable information.
- Web: Add 72hours.dc.gov to your “Favorites” so you can quickly access valuable information during or after an emergency.
- TV: Tune in to Cable Channels 13, 16, or your local news station to receive updates.
Radio: Radio stations will broadcast official information and instructions from the District government.

Make a plan

- Hold a family/company meeting and develop an emergency plan. As your business may already have a plan – be familiar with it.
- Draw a floor plan of your home/office and mark two escape routes from each room.
- Learn how and when to turn off utilities (water, gas, and electricity) at main switches.
- Create your own emergency plan for your family at <http://makeaplan.dc.gov>.

Evacuation

- In some emergencies, you may be told to evacuate your home/business or neighborhood. Officials will tell you when to evacuate and what routes are open.
- Evacuation by Walking
- Evacuation by Car or Other Vehicle
- 19 primary evacuation routes out of the city.
- They are clearly marked with signs directing motorists to the Capital Beltway (I-495) and beyond.
- During an emergency, stay tuned to your local emergency station Radio station (1650 AM)

Shelter in Place

- It is more dangerous to be outside in some types of emergencies. In these emergencies, the best, safest response is to "shelter in place." This means staying inside a safe building—your house, workplace, school, or other building—or entering a nearby building and seeking cover.

If you are asked to shelter in place

- Shelter in a room with the fewest doors and/or windows possible. Ideally choose a room that has just one door and at least 10 square feet per person.
- **Seal doors, windows and fireplaces**
- If the emergency is airborne (such as a disease, chemical release, or radiation) turn off ventilation and hot air heating systems (radiator heat may remain on).
- **Keep at least one phone line open for emergency calls.**
- Stay tuned to your radio or television, or scan official websites for information and updates.
- Use your [Emergency Go Kit](#).

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What is an Active Shooter?





- One or more subjects who participate in a random or systematic shooting spree, or other acts of violence capable of causing mass casualties.

- The overriding objective of the Active Shooter would appear to be that of mass murder rather than other criminal conduct.

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In a study of 35 active shooter events during 2012*:

- 57% of the attackers were insiders (known)
- 37% of attacks were over in under 5 minutes while the average attack was 12 minutes
- 71% of the victims initially targeted were the focus of the perceived injustice
- 74% of the attackers entered through the main entrance
- 51% of attacks occurred in the workplace

*per John Nicoletti, Ph.D. (Nicoletti-Flater Associates)

Aaron Alexis/Navy Yard Shooting:

- Insider/Known
- First 10 victims killed in under 6 minutes (*all 12 under 22 minutes*)
- *69 minutes from first shots fired by Alexis to final shots that ended threat.*
- Thought the government was doing microwave project on him.
- Entered through the main entrance.
- Workplace setting.

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Who is an Active Shooter?





- May be a “lone wolf”
- May be a domestic terrorist
- May be an international terrorist
- May be your neighbor
- May be your co-worker
- May be ? There is no firm profile of An Active Shooter.

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Goals of an Active Shooter





Historical Events



- Washington, DC Holocaust Museum (2009)
killed 1 security guard; shooter shot by another
security guard (James Von Brunn)
- Washington, DC Family Research Council (2012)
shot a front desk employee in the arm who struggled
with the shooter and disarmed him (Floyd Corkins)
- Washington, DC Washington Navy Yard (2013)
killed 12; 3 wounded (Aaron Alexis)



Preparation



- Conduct a realistic security assessment
To determine your facility's vulnerability
to an active shooter.

- Identify multiple evacuation routes and
practice under various conditions.

- Ensure evacuation routes account for
individuals with special needs and
disabilities.

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Preparation Continued



- Designate shelter areas with thick walls, solid doors with locks, minimal windows, communications devices and first aid kits.
- Incorporate active shooter drills into Your emergency preparedness procedures.
- Internal Referral Policy for troubled employees or students: EAP, School Counselors, Clergy, Law Enforcement.

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ACTION

What do I do?



- Try to remain calm
- Quick assessment
- Decision
- Take action
- Three options

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OPTION #1 Run



- Evacuate, Get out, RUN!!!
- If you can get out...GET OUT !
- Encourage others to leave with you
(don't get slowed down)
- Leave your belongings behind
- Once you're out, keep others out of the Danger zone.

RUN > HIDE > FIGHT
>>> SURVIVING AN ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENT

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Law Enforcement Response



- Once the shooter is contained first aid and medical evacuations will begin.
- Follow directions given by the law enforcement.
- Show your hands so it is clear that you pose no threat.
- You may be treated as a suspect until all is sorted out.

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